

## CLASSIFICATION OFFICE DECISION

**Title of publication:** Kate & Wills Up The Aisle: A Right Royal Fairy Tale

**Other known title(s):** Kate And Wills: Up The Aisle

**OFLC ref:** 1100920.000

**Medium:** Book

**Author:** Alison Jackson

**Publisher:** Quadrille Publishing Limited

**Country of origin:** United Kingdom

**Language:** English

**Applicant:** Secretary for Internal Affairs

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| <b>Classification:</b> Unrestricted. |
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**Descriptive note:** None

**Display conditions:** None

**Date of entry in Register:** 22 September 2011

**Date of direction to issue a label:** No direction to issue a label has been issued

### Summary of reasons for decision:

"Kate & Wills Up The Aisle: A Right Royal Fairy Tale" is a hardcover book with colour and black-and-white photographic images, and simple text. It includes mildly sexual depictions as part of an irreverent satire. Models are staged to look like members of the British Royal Family and their friends. Mock-candid shots show them throughout the wedding process, including cavorting with 'strippers' at 'stag' and 'hen' parties, receiving personal beauty or medical treatment, sitting on the toilet, or engaging in romantic embraces with sexual overtones.

In response to a complaint by a member of the public, the Secretary for Internal Affairs submitted the book for classification under s13(1)(b) of the Films, Videos, and Publications Classification Act 1993 (FVPC Act).

The unrestricted availability of the book is not likely to be injurious to the public good. The satire degrades its subjects, but not to an extent or degree, or in a manner, that is likely to be injurious. The book's cover bears an image of the Prince in uniform romantically crowning the Duchess, who wears lingerie. This image identifies the book as intended for mature readers, although it will attract the attention of some young persons. None of the images presented by

the book are sexually explicit in nature, nor are any sexual matters presented with sufficient detail or in a manner that will significantly shock and disturb younger readers. The sexual activities are only broadly presented, and are insufficiently detailed to prematurely introduce children and younger teenagers to the mechanics of sexual activity. The depiction of animals mating, a medical procedure, and personal beauty treatments will be only mildly and temporarily disturbing to some children who inadvertently examine the book. Given these considerations, the book is classified as 'unrestricted'.

However, the publication is more suitable for mature audiences. The book's satire is likely to be offensive to some readers who are drawn to the book and expecting more conventional coverage on the British Monarchy. The Classification Office recommends that distributors place an appropriate label on the cover of the book, warning potential readers of its sexual content.

The Classification Office has considered the effects of the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 (NZBR Act) on the application of the classification criteria. The book does not raise any issues in a way that justifies a limitation on the NZBR Act by placing a restriction on the book's availability. As such the rights and freedoms in s 14 can be read consistently with the FVPC Act and are not impeded in any way.